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# TEACHING THE ETHICS OF DIGITAL CULTURE

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## **Teaching the Ethics of Digital Culture**

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## Teaching the Ethics of Digital Culture

Lanier (2018) argued that social media usage has the potential to negatively impact all facets of life impacting interpersonal relationships, and creating emotional instabilities. Furthermore, when teaching students and or colleagues about the ethics of technology I would incorporate peer reviewed research that outlined ethical questions from an ethical perspective, while examining the impact of social media usage. According to Moreno, Goniu, Moreno & Diekema, (2013) social media use can create privacy concerns, confidentiality issues, information sharing dilemmas and consent for data sharing. Based on research and an ethical perspective, social media has a plethora of implications for ethical questions as well as dilemmas.

Based on the course readings, I would teach students and or colleagues about the ethics of technology that they are using by emphasizing the importance of privacy and security while utilizing technology, as well as the significance of peer reviewed resources along with highlighting digital literacy and appropriate online ethical behavior (Nelson, 2012).

Moreover, further implications for social media ethical issues may consist of the lack of online social emotional support systems, and the long term psychological effects of online social media exposure (Azer, 2017). According to Azer (2017) social media also has additional ethical concerns with the lack of appropriately obtaining informed consent on online platforms.

Moreover, based on extensive peer reviewed research about the ethics of social media it is

important to completely understand the technology. Hemsley, Jacobson, Gruzd & Mai (2018) stated that social media and social networks are riddled with privacy violations, fictional news stories, skepticism, divisive content and unsolicited opinions.

However, social media can be utilized for the good of humanity and aid in positive social issues. It is also important that students and colleagues are taught that as well. So, it is very significant for educators to facilitate this information properly to students and colleagues when teaching about the ethics of technology. Furthermore, throughout the research process I found that there are even more ethical concerns that have the potential to occur in a professional setting or within an organization. According to Brusoni & Vaccaro (2016) additional ethical concerns that may impact organizations and professional settings could be inclusive of counter productivity, data gathering issues, discrepancies in digital ownership and security liability dilemmas.

Interestingly, these issues are all a part of the discussion and the narrative when teaching students or colleagues about the ethics of technology as well as social media utilization. Moreover, the peer reviewed research in this essay correlates with the Lanier readings from class and facilitates exploring the ethics of this digital cultural era. Specifically, this research also explores the technology of social media more in depth and aims to explain behaviors and relationships that technology allows. Nelson (2012) stated that technology severely impacts

interpersonal relationships among University students and this further highlights the significance of teaching students about the ethics of technology. Additionally, Nelson (2012) also stated that students are impacted psychologically, socially, emotionally and psychosocially by the effects of social media and online technology.

The effects of social media use curate ethical dilemmas and these concerns need to be continuously researched and studied by educators and scholars. According to Nelson (2012) it is significant for educators to outline the potential for ethical dilemmas from peer reviewed sources, while accessing the potential of behavioral and psychological possibilities from the utilization of social media technology. Additionally, highlighting ethical dilemmas that occur from technology such as privacy violations and misinformation, will procure a thorough understanding of the potential ethical dilemmas associated with social media utilization. In the conclusion of this essay, I aimed to thoroughly discuss implementation of guiding students or colleagues through implications of experiencing behavioral possibilities associated with social media use, ethical dilemmas and teaching this technology. Finally, Lanier (2018) discussed a plethora of ethical dilemmas associated with technology and aimed to express the importance of educators outlining the dangers of these ethical dilemmas, as well as the potential outcome for students or colleagues that are just learning about the technology of social media.

## References

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